

ABUNDANCE OF THE OLD LADY (*MANIA MAURA* L.) IN WALES. — Dr. T. N. D. Peet in his interesting "Notes on the Moths of Hickling and Wheatfen Broads" (1975, *Proc. Trans. Norfolk & Norwich Nat. Soc.*, 22: 156-166) says this species "has declined in numbers all over the British Isles in recent years . . ." It may therefore be worth recording that at Llanafan Fawr, Breconshire, on 9th August, 1975, Dr. H. G. Parker and his family and I noted some two dozen *maura* at sugar, with on one patch as many as eight. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.

SCOPULA EMUTARIA (HUBN.) IN SOUTH WALES. — On 29th June, 1975, I took an example of this species at Whiteford Burrows in the Gower Peninsula. So far as I am aware it has not previously been found in Wales. — R. G. WARREN, Wood Ridings, 32 Whitmore Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent.

PERIZOMA TAENIATUM (STANTON) IN NORTHUMBERLAND. — Three males of this species were caught at an m.v. lamp on 5th August, 1975, about two and a half miles north-west of Allendale Town. This is apparently the first record of its capture in Northumberland. — D. A. SHEPPARD, Department of Agricultural Biology, Close House Field Station, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland; and M. E. EYRE, Department of Agricultural Biochemistry, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

A BELATED RECORD OF *EPIBLEMA GRANDAEVANA* (L. & Z.) IN COUNTY DURHAM. — I caught a single specimen of this moth on the sea-cliffs at the mouth of Castle Eden Dene on 24th July, 1972. Of the known foodplants only coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara* L.) occurs there. Mr. T. C. Dunn kindly confirmed the identification. — D. A. SHEPPARD, Department of Agricultural Biology, Close House Field Station, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland. [This would appear to be a particularly notable re-discovery. The species seems only ever to have been found in County Durham, and it would be interesting to know when it was last taken there. Some 30 years ago L. T. Ford (*Guide to the Smaller British Lepidoptera*, 71) noted it as "perhaps now extinct". — Editor.]

ACENTRIA NIVEA (OL.) AT LIGHT. — On a number of occasions between 19th July and 9th August, 1975, I operated a Heath trap with a sheet in various sites in Staffordshire. *A. nivea* came to the light on each occasion, some entering the trap but the great majority flying on to the sheet, upon which they fluttered around in dizzy circles. In each instance there were potential breeding places for *A. nivea* not far away, in the form of ponds or ditches. The behaviour of the moths seems to indicate a dispersal flight in search of fresh breeding-grounds, and the sheet no doubt represented a water surface. — R. G. WARREN, Wood Ridings, 32 Whitmore Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent.